

PWSD #1 OF CHRISTIAN COUNTY RECEIVES \$547,000 FROM USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT



Front Row: James Bowles, Attorney; Avaline Harris, President of the Board; Vickie Walker, Board Member; Nathan Correll, Field Representative for Senator Talent; Patrick Morrow, Field Representative for Senator Bond; Kathern Davis, Secretary/Treasurer of the Board; Back Row: Brian Bowers, Project Inspector for Simmons Engineering; Glen Hammons, Board Member; John Hawk, Board Member; Jon Bledsoe, Field Representative for Congressman Blunt; Bruce Hively, Rural Development Area Specialist.

Bruce Hively, Area Specialist for USDA Rural Development, presented a Mock Check in the amount of \$547,000 to Public Water Supply District (PWSD) #1 of Christian County during a ceremony held on April 29, 2005, at the Chadwick Community Building. The PWSD was organized to provide water service to the unincorporated community of Chadwick including the Chadwick school. The funding will assist the PWSD with improvements of a new storage standpipe and larger capacity water lines for more reliable water supply to the 127 Chadwick residents plus the school.

The \$602,000 of improvements is being funded through a partnership effort including:

Rural Development funds of a \$300,000 loan and a \$247,000 grant plus the PWSD's contribution of \$55,000. Announcement of these water improvements is in conjunction with National Earth Day Activities and will help the community with clean water and economic opportunities.

"Improving water quality in rural Missouri is a top priority," said U. S. Senator Jim Talent, a member of the Senate Agriculture committee. "This funding will make certain residents of Christian County have access to a high quality water infrastructure system. This is an example of how the federal government is partnering with the local community to meet the needs of area residents."

President Avaline Harris stated, "The water district thanks Rural Development for their financial assistance in constructing the new standpipe and upgrading the water lines of our system. With these improvements, we can provide a safe and dependable water supply with adequate pressures to area residents."

Project Engineer, Patrick O'Bryant of Simmons Engineering Company in Republic, provided the design and construction oversight for the project. MLS Underground, Inc., from Kennett, Missouri, and Circle P Welding of Norman, Oklahoma, are the General Contractors.

Greg Brannum, Missouri State Director for USDA Rural Development said, "U.S. Senators "Kit" Bond and Jim Talent and U.S. Representative Roy Blunt have been, and continue to be, strong proponents for the necessary funding for essential services for rural Missourians by making available federal funds for these kinds of rural projects."

“Having an environmentally safe water system is important to the residents and I commend all the partners for their hard work making this project a reality,” said Branum. “This project mirrors President Bush’s initiatives for rural America and exemplify the Rural Development mission – committed to the future of rural communities.”

Anyone seeking more information about this or any other USDA Rural Development program may visit the homepage at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/mo/> or by contacting Bruce Hively, Area Specialist at 688 S State Highway B, Suite 400, Springfield MO, 65802 or by calling (417) 831-5246 extension 5 or by email to bruce.hively@mo.usda.gov.

“Committed to the future of rural communities.”

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